(a) Allotment of vending stalls, kiosks and petty shops;

(b) Loans from Nationalised Banks at nominal rates of interest under Differential Rate of inter Scheme;

(c) Allotment of public telephone booths;

(d) Reservation in distribution of petrol pumps, kerosene depots etc.

(7) Scheme of Assistance to disabled for purcase/fitting of Aids/Appliances

The main objective of the scheme is to assist needy physically handicapped persons in procuring durable, sophisticated and scientifically manufactured aids and appliances that promote their physical, social and psychological rehabilitation. The scheme is implemented through centres run by the Companies, registered under companies Act, registered societies, Trusts or any other institutions recognised by the Ministry of Welfare. Both governmental and nongovernmental agencies are thus engaged for the implementation of the scheme.

Under the scheme, aids and appliances upto value of Rs. 3600/- are distributed to the disabled persons free of cost if their monthly income is upto Rs. 1200/- and at 50% of the cost if the income is between Rs. 1201 to Rs. 2500/-

(8) Government of India have recently enacted "The Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995 ". The Act provides prevention and early detection of disabilities, education, employment non-disrimination etc. for disabled persons including mentally handicapped persons.

दलित विकास बैंक की स्थापना करना

874. **श्री नागमणि** : **क्या कल्याण** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि **:**

(क) क्या सरकार देश में दलितों के आर्थिक उत्थान हेतु एक दलित विकास बैंक स्थापित करने का विचार रखती है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है; और

(ग) यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण है?

कल्याण मंत्री (श्री सीताराम केसरी) : (क) जी, नहीं।

(ख) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

(ग) भारत सरकार ने पहले ही 1989 में अनुसूचित जाति तथा अनुसूचित जनजाति वित्त एवं विकास निगम की स्थापना की है जो गरीबी की रेखा से दोगुने के नीचे के अनुसूचित जाति तथा अनुसूचित जनजाति के उद्यमियों को स्व-आय सृजक एककों के लिए रियाती ब्याज दर पर वित्तीय सहायता देता है। अनुसूचित जाति तथा अनुसूचित जनजातियों के युवा उद्यमियों को इसी प्रकार की सुविधाएं देने के लिए 23 अनुसूचित जाति/अनुसूचित जनजाति विकास निगम हैं। इसके अतिरिक्त, केंद्र सरकार अनुसूचित जाति/अनुसूचित जनजातियों के लिए आय सृजक कार्यक्रमों को प्रोत्साहन देने के लिए राज्यों/संघ राज्य क्षेत्रों को विशेष केंद्रीय सहायता देती है। इसके अलावा, राष्ट्रीय सफाई कर्मचारियों की मुक्ति और पुनर्वास की योजना के अंतर्गत सफाई कर्मचारियों को सम्मान जनक वैकल्पिक व्यावसायों में पुनर्वास के लिए 50000/- रुपये प्रति लाभार्थी की लागत वाली परियोजनाएं वित्त पोषित की जा रही है। उपर्युक्त सभी योजनाएं अनुसूचित जाति तथा अनुसूचित जनजातियों को प्राथमिकता क्षेत्र ऋण देने की योजना के अंतर्गत राष्ट्रीयकृत बैंकों के माध्यम से उपलब्ध सुविधाओं के अतिरिक्त उनके आर्थिक विकास के लिए विशेष सुविधाएं प्रदान करने की ओर निर्देशित हैं।

Setting up of Steel Plant by MESCO Group

875. SHRI SARADA MOHANTY: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the MESCO Group has sought the permission of his Ministry to set up some steel plants in Orissa and in some other States;

(b) if so, the States where MESCO Group is proposed to set up steel plants;

(c) the steps taken to clear the proposals of MESCO Group; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) to (d) M/s. Mideast Integrated Steel Ltd. (MISL) and Mesco Kalinga Steel Ltd. (MK.SL) belonging to the MESCO Group have sought Government permission to set up two steel plants under 100% EOU scheme in Integrated Industrial Complex, Duburi, Jajpur District, Orissa.

Government approvals for (i) permission/ licence under 100% EOU scheme, (ii) foreign/ NRI equity participation and (iii) foreign technical collaboration were granted to set up two integrated steel plants in the above mentioned location to manufacture 10.0 lakh tonnes per annum (tpa) steel long products and 1.93 lakh tpa pig iron by MISL and 13.0 lakh tpa HR Coils and 5 lakh tpa pig iron by MKSL respectively. MKSL submitted a revised application in December, 1995 for substantial expansion to manufacture 22.5 lakh tpa HR flat products and 2.35 lakh tpa pig iron, which has also been approved by the Foreign Investment Promotion Board.

Capacity addition in Fertilizer sector

876. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA: DR. BAPU KALDATE:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the extent of fresh capacity addition in the fertilizer sector in the country since the commissioning of the gasbased fertilizers plants along the HBJ pipeline;

(b) the percentage of capacity utilisation of the fertilizer industry since 1991-92 & the reasons for decline, if any, in the production;

(c) the percentage of rise/fall in the demand and supply of fertilizers since 1991-92;

(d) the comparative imports of fertilizers during 1994-95 and 1995-96 (till date); and

(e) the measures taken so far to make the fertilizer industry in the country self-sufficient?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAM LAKHAN SINGH YADAV): (a) Prior to the commissioning of the first fertilizer plant on the HBJ pipeline in the year 1987-88, the installed capacity of fertilizers in the country was 70.33 lakh tonnes of nitrogen and 22.63 lakh tonnes of phosphate. The installed capacity for 1995-96 is 93.06 lakh tonnes of nitrogen and 28.22 lakh tonnes of phosphate.

(b) Year-wise production and capacity utilisation since 1991-92 are given below:

Year	Nitrogen Production		Phosphate	
	% age Cap. Utilisation	(in lakh MT)	Production (In lakh MT)	% age Cap. Utilisation
1991-92	73.01	88.5	25.62	93.0
i: 92-93	74.30	88.0	23.06	82.1
1993-94	72.31	S3.9	18.16	64.3
1994-95	79.45	*Jl.2*	24.93	88.3
1995-96	87.60	96.7	25.77	91.0

There has been a consistent improvement in the capacity utilisation of the fertilizer plants in the last three years. Though there was a temporary setback in the capacity utilisation of phosphatic fertilizer plants due to decontrol of phosphatic fertilizers, the production has picked up and the capacity utilisation has improved.

(c) The demand of controlled fertilizers is assessed for each crop season separately in consultation with the State Governments and is reflected in the allocations made under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955. At present, urea is the only fertilizer under control. The season-wise ECA allocations and cumulative availability of urea from 1991-92 onwards are given below:

(In Lakh Tonnes)

	ECA Allocation	Cumulative Availability	Percentage rise/fall relative to the corresponding season of the previous year	
			ECA Allocation	Cumulative Availability
Kharif, 1991	67.15	79.25		